

or more application programs from "the communications satellite"
15 in electronic communication with "the communications satellite"
and in electronic communication with ^{*}one or more integrated
receiver decoders;

^{*}one or more integrated receiver decoders in electrical
communication with one or more Graphical User Interfaces
20 ("GUIs") for a user to input information into the application
program and one or more modems;

one or more modems in electronic communication with one or
more communications servers for encapsulating information input
by a user;

25 one or more communications servers for encapsulating
information input by a user in electronic communication with one
or more interactive servers for translating the information into
a network protocol; and

one or more interactive servers for translating the
30 information into a network protocol in electronic communication
with one or more vendors that receive the information over a
wide area network.

2. The system of claim 1, wherein at least a portion of the
application received by the individual satellite dish is stored
35 in a buffer before being transmitted through the modem.

3. The system of claim 1, wherein the communications server
multiplexes the information after it encapsulates the

information.

4. The system of claim 1, wherein a single application server
40 houses several application programs.

5. The system of claim 1, wherein communication to the vendor
is via the Internet.

6. The system of claim 1, wherein the vendor is a provider of
restaurant services.

45 7. The system of claim 1, wherein the vendor is a provider of
banking services.

8. The system of claim 1, wherein the vendor is a provider of
retail sales services.

9. The system of claim 1, wherein communication of the
50 application program from the application server through the
broadcast center, through the communications satellite and into
the individual satellite dish is one-way.

10. The system of claim 1, wherein the interactive server
translates the information into TCP/IP protocol.

55 11. The system of claim 1, wherein communication between the
modem, the communications server, the interactive server and the
vendor is two-way communication.

12. The system of claim 1, wherein the communication server
and the interactive server are located at the same local center.

60 13. The system of claim 1, wherein the application server
further houses one or more application program modules.

14. The system of claim 13, wherein the application modules are standardized.

15. The system of claim 14, wherein the application modules
65 are customized for different GUIs.

16. The system of claim 14, wherein the application modules are customized for different sets of functionality.

17. The system of claim 14, wherein the application modules are customized for different vendors.

70 18. A method for providing hybrid communication using satellite and terrestrial interfaces, comprising the steps of:

providing one or more application programs on one or more application servers;

transmitting the application program to one or more
75 broadcast centers;

transmitting the application program from the broadcast center to one or more communications satellites;

transmitting the application program from the communications satellite to one or more individual satellite
80 dishes;

communicating the application program from the individual satellite dish to one or more integrated receiver decoders;

enabling a user to input information into the application program received by the integrated receiver decoder via a GUI;

85 encapsulating the input information;

translating the input information to a network protocol;
and

transmitting the input information to one or more
vendors.

90 19. The method of claim 18, further comprising the step of
multiplexing the information after it is encapsulated and before
it is translated to a network protocol.

20. The method of claim 18, wherein the communication of the
application program to the individual satellite dish is one-way.

95 21. A hybrid satellite communications system using satellite
and terrestrial interfaces, comprising:

one or more application servers further including one or
more application programs for the input of information by a
user, said application server being in electronic communication

100 with one or more broadcast centers;

one or more broadcast centers for communicating one or more
application programs with one or more communications satellites;

one or more communications satellites;

105 one or more individual satellite dishes for receiving one
or more application programs from the communications satellite
in electronic communication with the communications satellite
and in electronic communication with one or more integrated
receiver decoders;

one or more integrated receiver decoders in electrical

110 communication with one or more Graphical User Interfaces
("GUIs") for a user to input information into the application
program and one or more modems;

one or more modems in electronic communication with one or
more communications servers for encapsulating information input
115 by a user;

one or more communications servers for encapsulating
information input by a user in electronic communication with one
or more interactive servers for translating the information into
a network protocol; and

120 one or more interactive servers for translating the
information into a network protocol in electronic communication
with one or more e-mail translation applications for translating
the information into e-mail protocol.

22. The system of claim 21, wherein the e-mail translation
125 application is in its own one or more e-mail translation
servers.

23. The system of claim 21, wherein the e-mail translation
application is in electronic communication with one or more e-
mail servers.

130 24. The system of claim 22, wherein the e-mail translation
application is in electronic communication with one or more e-
mail servers.

25. The system of claim 21, wherein the communication

server and the interactive server are located at the same local
135 center.

26. The system of claim 21, wherein at least a portion of
the application received by the individual satellite dish is
stored in a buffer before being transmitted through the modem.

27. The system of claim 21, wherein the communications
140 server multiplexes the information before it encapsulates the
information.

28. The system of claim 21, wherein the application server
houses several application modules.

29. The system of claim 21, wherein the communication of
145 the application from the application server through the
broadcast center through the communications satellite and into
the individual satellite dish is one-way.

30. The system of claim 21, wherein communication between the
modem, the communications server, the interactive server and the
150 e-mail application are two-way.

31. The system of claim 24, wherein the information
translated into e-mail protocol is communicated over the
Internet.

32. The system of claim 21, wherein the information
155 translated into e-mail protocol is communicated over the
Internet.

33. A hybrid satellite communications system using satellite

and terrestrial interfaces, comprising:

one or more application servers further including one or
160 more application programs for the input of information by a
user, said application server being in electronic communication
with one or more broadcast centers;

one or more broadcast centers for communicating one or more
application programs with one or more communications satellites;

165 one or more communications satellites;

one or more individual satellite dishes for receiving one
or more application programs from the communications satellite
in electronic communication with the communications satellite
and in electronic communication with one or more integrated
170 receiver decoders;

one or more integrated receiver decoders in electrical
communication with one or more Graphical User Interfaces
("GUIs") for a user to input information into the application
program and one or more modems;

175 one or more modems in electronic communication with one or
more communications servers for encapsulating information input
by a user;

one or more communications servers for encapsulating
information input by a user in electronic communication with one
180 or more interactive servers for translating the information into
a network protocol; and

one or more interactive servers for translating the information into a network protocol in electronic communication with one or more e-mail translation applications for translating
185 the information into e-mail protocol;

wherein the interactive server internally inputs the information into an interactive server-based application before it is translated into e-mail protocol.

34. The system of claim 21, wherein after the information is
190 translated into an e-mail protocol, it is transmitted by an e-mail server through the Internet.

35. An integrated receiver decoder for use in a hybrid communications system using satellite and terrestrial interfaces, comprising:

195 one or more application servers further including one or more application programs for the input of information by a user, said application server being in electronic communication with one or more broadcast centers;

one or more broadcast centers for communicating one or more
200 application programs with one or more communications satellites;

one or more communications satellites;

one or more individual satellite dishes for receiving one or more application programs from the communications satellite in electronic communication with the communications satellite
205 and in electronic communication with one or more integrated

receiver decoders;

one or more integrated receiver decoders in electrical communication with one or more Graphical User Interfaces ("GUIs") for a user to input information into the application
210 program and one or more modems;

one or more modems in electronic communication with one or more communications servers for encapsulating information input by a user;

one or more communications servers for encapsulating
215 information input by a user in electronic communication with one or more interactive servers for translating the information into a network protocol; and

one or more interactive servers for translating the information into a network protocol in electronic communication
220 with one or more vendors that receive the information over a wide area network.

36. An application program for use in a hybrid communications system using satellite and terrestrial interfaces, comprising:

225 one or more application servers further including one or more application programs for the input of information by a user, said ^{one or more} application server being in electronic communication with one or more broadcast centers;

Said one or more broadcast centers for communicating one or more

and one or more communications satellites;

one or more individual receiver dishes for receiving one or more application programs from the communications satellite in electronic communication with the communications satellite and in electronic communication with one or more Graphical User Interfaces ("GUIs") for a user to input information into the application program and one or more modems;

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one or more modems in electronic communication with one or
communications servers for encapsulating information input
user;

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one or more communications servers for encapsulating information input by a user in electronic communication with one or more interactive servers for translating the information into network protocol; and

one or more interactive servers for translating the information into a network protocol in electronic communication with one or more vendors that receive the information over a local area network.